



The Halyard

We can not control the wind but we can adjust the sails

A weekly newsletter for Virginia's Library Media Specialists
January 16, 2004



From The Crow's Nest

Ahoy! We are already adjusting the sails and moving into this New Year at a rapid clip. I keep thinking that the water is going to smooth out so I can coast for a while and catch up on all of the things I need to do. But fresh winds keep my boat moving into often-uncharted waters. I am so glad for the professionals that are part of the library community that often help me adjust my sails or grab a bucket and help me bail!

Some of the ports of call for this year include the Linking Libraries Project, Computer Technology SOL, NCLB, and literacy by the end of eighth grade. I will be sharing concerns on these issues as I sail.

Linking Libraries Update

Representatives of 21 different school divisions, one institute of higher learning and one private school are currently working on the project. On January 13, the members met as a group for the first time. Previously they have met as small crews both in person and using online communications. It was a most productive day. Several major decisions were made on how the document will be drafted.



The goal is to look at the core content SOL blueprints and determine which of the tested items that receive emphasis by the classroom teacher can be matched to the national information literacy standards established in Information Power II. Once the alignment is made, strategies for the library media specialist to implement into their library curriculum, and technology connections will be identified. These strategies are a representative sampling of possibilities a library media specialist can/might utilize in building their own library program. We hope to develop a searchable document where items can be searched by both the SOL number, the information literacy standard and the alignment to the new state technology plan's goals, targets, and objectives.



From the Professional Shelf



Two new resources to be aware of:

We Boost Achievement: Evidence Based Practice For School Library Media Specialists

By David Loertscher and Ross Todd

“This book provides a multitude of techniques to collect evidence concerning reading, information literacy, collaborative planning, and technology.”

Impact: Documenting the LMC Program and Accountability

By Nancy Miller

“Template for Microsoft Excel (PSC or Mac, Office '97 or higher) this amazing computer software tracks the contributions of the LMC program in three essential areas: collaboration planning, information literacy, and links to state standards.”

This is a great companion to the *We Boost Achievement* book mentioned above.

Both are available from LMC Source, <http://www.lmcsource.com/>

NCLB Updates <http://www.lmcsource.com/>

Many of the consortiums are now planning for the spring and summer technology training events. Please volunteer to help conduct a workshop and to attend several.

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